



# United States Air Force Museum

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## 2003 AT THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE MUSEUM

Almost a century ago, two brothers from Dayton, Ohio, realized their vision of sustained, controlled, powered flight, forever changing the world. Since that magical day in 1903, the Wright brothers' pioneering spirit has endured through the steady march of technological innovation leading to today's stealthy, supersonic fighter jets.

Befitting its legacy as the cradle of aviation, Dayton will take center stage in 2003 as the location for an exciting array of major events and activities to commemorate a century of flight. As the world's largest and oldest military aviation museum and the national museum for the Air Force, the United States Air Force Museum will play a prominent role in the celebration, serving as the location for many planned events. Some events are museum initiatives while others are *Inventing Flight* initiatives. Spearheading the 2003 celebration in the Dayton area, *Inventing Flight* is a Dayton-based organization founded in 1989 to promote aviation, the Wright brothers and Dayton's role in the birth, development and future of aviation.

Along with celebrating the Centennial of Flight in 2003, the Museum will open the 200,000-plus-square-foot Eugene Kettering Gallery, the centerpiece of a major Museum expansion. Named in honor of the first head of the Air Force Museum Foundation's Board of Trustees, the gallery will provide the Museum with additional space to reconfigure the flow of exhibits and aircraft into a more chronological flow, allow for more aircraft and exhibits under roof and create a Cold War Gallery. This special area examining the Cold War will highlight the geopolitical changes and technological innovations produced during the era and will honor the men and women of the U.S. Air Force who helped democracy triumph over communism.

More long-term phases of the expansion vision include a hall of missiles, a new space gallery and an education center. Also, the Museum will roll out a restored B-2 Spirit Stealth Bomber, marking the first permanent public exhibit anywhere of such an aircraft.